The French Ministry of Agriculture

in contemplation a reorganization of

there may be a most effective appli-

cation of new methods and device in

There are many interesting farms

among the larger holdings in this ter-

ritory. One of these is a farm of

about 500 acres owned by the presi-

evidently no loss of any portion of the crop, but the vast loss of man have increased from about twenty-two

fertflizers usually consists of 250 to

Nevertheless, the owner when ques-

tioned, seemed to think that large

applications of commercial fertilizers

would not be profitable. His records

show that of the total cost of the

wheat crop, 12 per cent, is charge-

able for man labor, 21 per cent for

horse labor, 26 per cent, for manure and fertilizer, 13 per cent, for seed,

dent that at best the net profits per

acre cannot be very large with

this system of cropping. Profitable

production becomes possible only on

the larger farms where labor saving

latter. It accumulates during that

time a sufficient quantity of nitrogen

rom the air to provide pretty well

for the needs of the wheat, oats, beets

r potatoes that may follow the at-

falfa. A difficulty is now and then

experienced in preventing the lodging

of the wheat on account of the exces-

sive quantity of nitrates resulting

from the decomposition of the alfalfa

quantities of superphosphates and the

selection of wheat varieties with stiffer

40 and possibly 45 bushels of wheat

The farmers of the Loire Valley have

developed a series of cooperative so-

cisties, which are united under a cen-

tive organizations, known as syndi-

cates, have a total membership of 21.

000. The organization itself is quite

unique among the farmers of the

started in the early '80s, but the

of the first decade of the present cen-

and climatic conditions.

The application of large

agricultural production.

Agriculture in the Valley of Loire

By DR. J. G. LIPMAN,

States Government.

which influences the makeup of the sugar factories for other purposes dur- is well cognizant of this fact, and has

The country is one of interest to the fields would be large and labor- a more effective machinery may be

the traveller, partly because of na- saving devices used to good advantage. created for giving to French agricul-

the old Roman camps, of the later in- to be sure many large farms of 200, corelate agricultural research with

vasion of the Germanic tribes, of the 500 or even 1,000 acres. For the most agricultural extension in order that

of the river he is struck by the check-

alfalfa and potatoes made a very in-

plots-often not more than two of

were cutting the rye with the sickle.

On the other plots men were harvest-

has created a condition in many re-

The salvation of French agriculture

must lie in economic production of

preadstuffs, but economic production is

not possible except on the large, well

managed farms or on the smaller

farins whose owners may so thorough-

y cooperate as to enjoy the advan-

The prosperity of the agriculture in the Loire Valley, and for that matter

of any section of France, is unfavor-

nefficient methods of transportation.

A great deal of the food is transported

on slow moving two wheeled carts.

Much of the food of Paris and of other

large cities in the country is brought

in on these vehicles. Naturally this

not only adds to the cost of the food

when it finally reaches the consumer

but it also increases the loss of perish

able products on account of decomp

One is struck by the scant num

bers of beef cattle and of sheep in

the valley of the Loire. There are ap-

parently no large pastures as they are understood in the United States.

Very small herds of Normandy cattle

and of sheep are occasionally found

grazing along the roadsides, and us-

ually in charge of old men or women.

No doubt the war and the resulting

ack of concentrated foodstuffs helped

greatly to deplete the live stock re-

sources of this region. Young dairy

animals are conspicuous by their ab-

existing conditions

of feed costs, as well as labor costs,

there is not much hope of an early

revival of live stock farming on the

chalk plants of the Loire. Here again some promise is held out by possible

cooperation among the small farmers. The purchase of feeding stuffs in

large quantites, the use o' pedigreed

herd bulls, the establishment of

creameries and the adoption of more

progressive methods of feeding might

again make live stock farming a fac-

tor of moment in the agriculture of

the Loire Valley. To reach this con-

dition the small farmers will have to

secure more help from the agricul-

the Department of Agriculture than

they are now receiving.

sition and fermentation.

spects quite intolerable.

tages of mass production,

The valley of the river repre- are now much less important partly of their problems.

ing the war.

sents a formation underlaid by chalk on account of the use of the beet

Arab danger which in subsequent cen-

inhabitants of this region, and of the er-board like appearance of the fields. wars with England. The legends and About the middle of July the chang-

stories of that time centre around the ing greens of rye, wheat, barley, oats,

formerly grown quite extensively, but help them to a better understanding

One would expect that because of the French experiment stations and

the character of the crops produced, agricultural schools, to the end that

Unfortunately for the agriculture of ture the benefit of scientific research.

this region this is not so. There are It is proposed among other things to

three square rods in area-women practically without live stock, barring

power involved in gathering the crop to thirty bushels per acre, and the

by a method so expensive of time yield of oats from about forty to sixty explains much of the ills of agricul- bushels per acre. The application of

It appears that the French peasant, 450 pounds of superphosphate and 150

like the American farmer, is an in- to 200 pounds of sulphate of ammenia

bors. Employed as a day laborer on 30 to 100 pounds an acre. It is ex-

true, nevertheless, that the dividing falfa and of beets while good are not

sence and the number of swine is ridi-culously small. It is questionable treaching of the level of production to

courage the restoration of the live stock industry. From the standpoint stock industry. From the standpoint

tural schools, experiment stations and Central Syndicate did not attempt pur-

States is struck by the lack of contact controlling at least 80 per cent, of the

tions and their constituency. Some of ic buying for its members annually

the experiment station workers are about 15,000 tons of phosphatic fer-

well trained and well informed in tilizers, about 5,000 tons of potash fer-

specialists to a far greater degree monia and 2,500 tons of nitrate of soda, than experiment station men in the

chosen field, but they are tilizers 5,000 tons of sulphate of am-

vast stretche of slightly undulating

soil itself, and the cropping methods

tional tradition. One is reminded of

figure of Joan of Arc. It was at Blois where her standards were blest in old cathedral in 1429. It was

also at Blois where the Duke of Guise

was assassinated by order of Henry III. The castle at Blois was the tem-

porary . hode of Maria de Medici. In

de Russy the French nobility of the

sevententh and eighteenth centuries

were in the habit of engaging in fre-

By way of contrast to the old castles,

finds the numerous French villages

stretched out in a rambling fashion on the level floor of the valley. The

uildings in these villages are usually

located on a narrow winding street. The dwellings are of soft limestone

and have either tiled or thatched straw

roofs. The village street often forms

driving along the road one gets a

glimpse now and then of well kept

gardens and small orchards, but the

joined by low stone walls, often in a

state of disintegration. Also many of

the dwellings show signs of neglect.

rather than the intensive type pre-

vails. The common crops are wheat, oats, barley and alfalfa. The soil is

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aspberry is the strongest growing aspberry that we know of. The berry

is of extremely large size, rich, melting flesh, is highly flavored and sweet a

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dewberry, gooseberry, currant, asparagus, rhubarb and withoof chicory plants; fruit and ormanental trees, abrubs, Catalog free, HARRY L. SQUIRES, Good Ground, N. Y.

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ong seedlings, hardy perennials; will
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G APE VINES Sec. each, \$2.50 per dosen, postpaid Concord, Aga-wam, Catawba, Diamond, Micore's Early, Ningara, Wilder, Worden, Harry L. Squires, Good Ground, N. Y.

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Liberty Iris in 50 best sorts, canterbury bells, forgioves, stokesias, hardy phlox in 20 best sorts, boltonias, achilicas, aquilegias, chasta daisy, hardy carnations, hardy chrysanthemums in 30 best sorts, all colors, tolinathus, phaleris, rudbeckias, feverfew, delphinium belladonna hybride, sweet will-tame, corceptis, gaillardins, double and angle hollyhocks and many others. All rains and your plants get good of the fair rains and your plants get finely established for next year's work.

r and fall planting. Pot-grown plants that will bear fruit next

clean, odorless

Nor Garden

There Is

General farming of the extensive

space between the awellings

street itself is far from attractive.

of which are still standing, one

quent hunting expeditions.

great forest of Boulogne and

followed by the French farmers.

titles of seed for its members. It purthe owners of the larger areas, and has In travelling through the valley of not an ideal one for potatoes. Never-, content with remaining in their labora department in which all sorts of imthe Loire River one is charmed by the theless a considerable acreage is de- atories rather than going out among plements and machines are repaired get the earliest possible start next voted to this crop. Sugar beets were the farmers in order that they might

spring. or the members. The syndicate also purchases feeding stuffs for its members and helps them detia, larkspur, sweet peas and popdispose of their products. The alfalfa zeed sold by the syndicate is do-

rived from local sources. Large quantities of field peas for manure, and sand if the soil is heavy. ecd purposes are imported from Rake down finely before sowing, as southern France and South America. are likely to be buried. There has been a gradually increasing business in copper sulphate, since the southern portion of the Loire Valley is an important grape growing

section, and spraying with copper sul-

phate is a common practice,

Among the machinery sold by the tractors of this kind. syndicate there are many implement of American make, particularly seed drills and harvesting machinery. Before the war the United States were and of gluten. It is expected that the purchase of these feeding stuffs will again be resumed. This organization again be resumed. This organization been planted far enough apart. A feet wide, two feet deep and two feet large garden of this kind is easier to see the birds. The coop is made two breakage, because the shells are strong feet wide, two feet deep and two feet large garden of this kind is easier to high, and will accommodate one mathe small number of horses needed for again be resumed. This organization the cultivation of the land. A rota-tion consisted of wheat, oats and al-to the farmers in the other provinces ing the crop with scythes. The falfa is followed. Commercial fertiliz- of France. It proves that in spite of must be done by hand. sheaves were bound by hand with straw and nearly stacked. There was not excessive amounts. The records will learn to cooperate with his neighbourd and the straw and nearly stacked.

CANNAS IN UNION SQUARE.

New York, Oct. 6, 1919.

TO THE GARDEN EDITOR OF THE SUNdividualist, and disinclined for the per acre. Before the war muriate of most part to cooperate with his neighbors. Explanate with his neighbors. The potation was also used at the rate of beautiful bed of cannas in the norththe larger estates he insists on the pected by the owner that the use of east corner of Union Square. There eight hour day in the winter and the potash will be resumed as soon as an nine hour day in the summer, but adequate supply is again available. deep yellow and deep scarlet, on each when engaged in planting or harvest- More or less nitrate of soda is also stem. They seem to be a new and ing his own crops he does not seem to used for top dressing wheat in the rare kind. I would like to get a pack object to the sixteen or even eighteen spring. For top dressing pastures ago of the seed, but no one can tell hour day. Evidently his attachment basic slag is preferred, since this seems to his own land is so intense that he to be more effective than superphos- inquirers in the gardening department is able to overcome, in a measure, the phate for encouraging the growth of of The Sunday Sun kindly let me handicap of large scale production, as the finer grasses, particularly of white know the variety. Respectfully yours

one finds it on the larger farms. It is clover. The yields of wheat, oats, al-The cannas in the bed at the north and sub-dividing of small farms among as high as those produced by English cast corner of Union Square are yellow the children of the French peasantry farmers under similar climatic condi- King Humbert. The flowers are yelow, spotted with scarlet.

Yellow King Humbert is a sport from King Humbert, a scarlet flowere variety, and frequently the flowers revert to the original color, so there may be yellow and scarlet flowers or the same plant.

The large flowering cannas do no roduce seed in any quantity unless the flowers are fertilized by hand and the seed is not generally sold. Pur-13 per cent, for rental of the land chase tubers of cannas in the spring and 15 per cent, for supervision, de- from any of the seedsmen or nursery ably affected also by uneconomic and preciation and so forth. It is evi- men.

WINTER PROTECTION FOR BEES By PROP. L. B. CRANDALL.

It is very important that bee hives

machinery is employed to the fullest e protected from direct winds. advantage. As it is, the nitrogen obthis is not done the packing will be tacks of scale insects should ained from the air through the alalmost useless. The best wind break faifa crop is the prime factor in res an extensive hill or piece of woods ducing the cost of protection and in Artificial wind breaks are of little naintaining unimpaired the fertility value because they are not extensive of the soil. The alfalfa crop is good for two or three years-usually the

It has been found that usually buildings do not give good protection from winds on account of the fact that they cause eddy currents which may cause the wind to blow directly into the entrance and so nullify the protection given by the packing ma-A garden wall, if extensive nough, would give excellent protecon, since it would not cause these ddy currents. This would be espesides of a lot so as to break the wind from two directions, or if blowing toward the angle.

HOW TO DIG POTATOES.

Potatoes will undoubtedly be high his winter.

Do not dig potatoes as soon as the ines are killed, but wait ten days or two weeks. If potatoes are dug at freeze injures the germination. Retral organization, with headquarters at once the blight spores that have been Blois. While cooperation in actual washed down from the leaves and in a dry place, where there is a free crop growing seems to be difficult to stems through the thin covering soil circulation of air. Select three times as small farmers in this region, co- will attack the potatoes and cause an many ears as will be needed for plantoperation in the purchase of supplies has become feasible. These cooperaincrease of rot in storage. The pota- ing next spring. This will give a two toes that are already affected and years supply, and in 1921 the seed showing no blight will develop in may be scarce. Keep the seed corn storage and rot will spread. By leav- where it will not freeze. ing them in the ground ten days or two weeks after the vines die those country. The cooperative movement potatoes that are infected will decay n the field rather than in the cellar In digging allow the potatoes to chases on a large scale until the end dry thoroughly, not sun scald, in the Indeed, one coming from the United tury. The Central Syndicate is now field before putting in storage. This N. J., public schools put in practice will do away with many of the spores the past summer the knowledge between these agricultural organiza- tarmers' business of this district. It or blight "seeds," and will more completely check sweating, a favorable ing during the previous winter. condition for the spores to germinate,

in the cellar. Spread out rather thinly. Do not prizes. pile or sack. Drying and good ventiation in a cool cellar will check were more than 100 entries; many

Delayed digging, thorough drying in ne field and cool, dry, small pile twenty-four varieties of autumn vegeorage are the "ounces of prevenon."-M. F. ABELL, Connecticut.

The Department of Agriculture, in Food and Farming Weekly, No. 72, was quite equal to that of the boys. ssued by the department, says: "Control measures which spell sure doom to the Japanese beetle consist of The poultry was raised by the scholars stablishing a belt of poisoned foliage from eggs purchased from the Board around the infested area."

of Education's demonstration pens. Let us hope that the expectation of The show of pet stock was also athe "sure doom" of the Japanese tractive. beetle in America may not be a disppointment. This is a very dangerus insect, and if it spreads it will tables, needlework and products of the culinary art were displayed in great prove one of the most serious pests farmers and gardeners have ever had variety. deal with. teaching of elementary agriculture in

Hawaii is literally alive with Japa-ese beetles, and the inhabitants of public schools as shown by the exhibithe islands would also like to see the doom of the beetle.

WASTE LANDS GROW WALNUT stration plots are maintained in vari-PROFITABLY.

Black Walnut, a high priced and fast disappearing timber, may be grown profitably on waste land. While walnut does not grow in pure stands

In the art of gardening knowledge, the children walnut does not grow in pure stands.

To prove that poultry like oak and maple, groves may be set profitably in the back yard, the Bloomout in unused agricultural lands, ac-field Board of Education purchased a cording to the Department of Forestry pen of twelve pullets and a cockerel at the Ohio experiment station, by setting a start from seedlings. The time seedlings may be secured by planting poultry plant to four pens consisting the nuts in gardens this fall. Not only is the nuts in gardens this fall.

increased the demonstration Because the black walnut is an ex-tremely intolerant species, it will not through these demonstration pens, but thrive directly in the shade of other eggs for hatching purposes are sold trees. To create good forest conditions in the wainut groves it is neces- ing of chickens. The records that have sary to mix the seedlings with the been kept of the demonstration pens maple species. Pure plantings of the and the home flocks have proved con-

reach an age of about 30 years, when, unlike many forest trees, the growth poultry can be made a profitable inches high.

It can be made from a dry goods be-

Every poultry owner who intends to

depending upon the number of speci-

coops previous to the exhibition, and

will appear to better advantage when

ATTRACTIVE COOPS HELP TO Many hardy annuals can be sown WIN PRIZES. in the open ground in well prepared beds at this season. The plants will

In the same degree that "fine feath-Calliopsis, clarkia, cornflowers, goofes may all be sown in the autumn. the condition and appearance of show the coop. A tag or card plainly In preparing the soil it is of great ring fowl when they stand "at attenmarked, showing destination of the the condition and appearance of show the importance to dig deeply, adding adopted as a travelling van for fowl side, where it can be plainly seen. imported from a fine surface is needed or the seeds which are carried to the show wagen, automobile or other vehicle and not shipped by railroad:

If the vegetable garden can be made large enough most of the work can be or almost any other available material; done with a horse or one of the small the floor to be solid and the framework tractors, followed by the operator of wooden strips two inches wide and the wholesale market from With a horse the ploughing and lath, wire netting, or any kind of thin

care for than one where all the work ture bird or a pair of chickens. If

To be a success a garden of this gother, the coop should be made larger kind must be properly planned. Avoid to proportion to the number of fowls it is to accommodate. Keep together the kinds that mature at the same time, so the land can be exhibit his birds should have one or prepared for a later crop. nore exhibition coops of this nature,

mens he intends to exhibit. Birds can as hydrangeas, bay trees, figs, &c., should be stored for the winter in a be trained and conditioned in thes cool place, safe from frost. in becoming accustomed to them they As soon as the foliage falls spray

Tender plants in pots and tubs, such

tilacs with miscible oil sprays. All being judged and are more likely to

sprayed in the same manner.

three days outdoors.

ir as possible.

into light and heat.

servatory.

Plants that have been plunged in

from the garden that are to be taken

It takes plants a little while to ad-

placed in the window garden or con-

Pot up hyacinths, tulips and narcis-

soil from becoming dry by applying

water as needed. When the pots are

full of roots the plants can be brought

Seed corn should be selected from

sound, well glazed ears before a hard

AGRICULTURE IN PUBLIC

SCHOOLS.

gained in gardening and poultry rais-

Students of nine of the Bloomfield,

An exhibition was held in the high

school recently in competition for 160

In the vegetable department there

tables, and the exhibits generally were

ers look out for their laurels. The

In the poultry department were

In the home economics section of

Bloomfield stands unique in the

tion. Through the Board of Educa-

tion and the supervisor of agriculture.

A. G. Pennell, three gardening demon-

ous parts of Bloomfield. These plots.

together with winter lectures on agri

culture, give the scholars an insight

in the art of gardening. Having this

To prove that poultry could be raised

children make their

the show canned fruits and vege-

produce exhibited by the young ladies

fifty pens of birds of different breeds.

such as to make professional garden

collections of all seasonable products. One collection contained

in the garden or newly potted plants the attractiveness of the exhibit.

from the garden that are to be taken | Exhibitors who wish to ship their

and stood in a shaded spot for two or | in the best possible manner will want

just themselves to new conditions half inch material. Boards more than when taken from the garden and one half inch thick should not be used.

LATH CLOTH OR WIRE

war, and an increase is anticipated as wainut species thrive well until they clusively that the home raising of 18 inches wide, 24 inches long and 24 yard. Where less space is available,

For an exhibition pen or four hens

long and 24 inches high. In preparing for shipment a small the coop to absorb the moisture, and a ers make fine birds," proper exhibition cup or can provided for both feed and The cans should be nailed secoops assist markedly in improving curely about half way to the top of tion" before the critical judges. Here shipment as well as the return address, are the plans for a practical coop lanst be tacked or pasted on the out-

MARKETING EGGS.

Eggs from Petaluma, Cal., now sell in the New York market for the same price as eggs from near by and in walking. There are four or five good one and a half inches thick. The top, three cents below the eggs from back and sides may be covered with near by.

The California cags come in at the harrowing is quickly done, and this strong cloth: The front should be of followed immediately by what is two inch wire netting. If impossible two inch wire netting. If impossible two inch wire netting. If impossible the same size, and the shells are alfalfa and potatoes made a very interesting contrast. Some of the rye was being harvested. On the small plots—often not more than two of the rye was being harvested to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shells are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shell are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shell are to obtain netting, however, lath may all the same size, and the shell are to obtai

> carefully grade their eggs for size and more than this is to be exhibited to- color to compete with the California supply and pack carefully

The dealers say that the loss from local production is as follows:

Dirty eggs 2 per cent. Breakage 2 Chick development 5 Old eggs Rotten eggs 2.5 Mouldy eggs

No good manager will stand for

The remedy is clean nests. One nest for every five hens, with clean nesting material. Collect eggs often-twice daily. Handle eggs as little as pos-Market eggs of correct size, 24 to 28 ounces a dozen. Eggs weighing less than 21 ounces are graded as seconds and culls.

crushed when packed with the stanc- November shipment ard sizes and smear up the other W. H. BOOTHE & Co., Merchants. Produce infertile eggs. Confine the

male birds that are to be used for breeding purposes another season and Keep eggs in a dry, cool place until marketed. If kept in damp, musty

places a mould will develop interior of the eggs, and then they are not good for food, Do not permit eggs to come in contact with bad odors, such as paints,

kerosene, disinfectants, decaying vegetables or meat. Market eggs twice a week in warm

weather and once a week in the cool

Remove broody hens from the laving houses. Never expose eggs to the direct rays of the sun or rain. Keep he poultry houses clean, sanitary and free from vermin. Feed fresh, clean, wholesome food and provide pure, fruit and shade trees subject to at-1 win a prize. Furthermore, when birds are shown in coops of this kind that fresh water in clean vessels. are uniform in size and style, they not clean grain in straw free from mould as mould on grain or straw causes only improve the appearance of the show room, but add considerably to disease, and sick birds do not lay Drinking vessels should be washed thoroughly every week with a good disinfectant.

GEORGE H. POUND, New Jorsey.

HOW MANY HENS TO KEEP.

When taken indoors water well and spray the foliage; give as much fresh will last for a long time. Such a coop The size of the flock which can b ost efficiently kept will depend first of all upon the space available, and econdly, upon the amount of table craps or other waste which is available for feed. It is a mistake to try to overstock the available space. Bettop, which should be put on with ter results will be obtained from a sus for winter flowers. Set the pots screws so they may be easily removed. away in a cool, dark cellar. Keep the The following dimensions should be few hens in a small yard than from For one hen or cock, 12 inches wide, try flock rarely will consist of over 20 to 25 hens, and in many cases of For two hens or ben and cock, 12 not more than 8 or 10, or occasionally inches wide, 24 inches long and 24 of only 3 or 4. For a flock of 20 to

25 hens a space of not less than 25 For a trie or two hens and one cock, by 30 feet should be available for



fowls and have them arrive by express

a special shipping coop like that shown

may be made from boards taken from

dry goods hoxes or almost any other

as it makes the coop too heavy. The

oop may be put together with nalls

with the exception of the slats on the

used in constructing same:

inches high.

18 inches long and 24 inches high,

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A thousand and one new farming to get the most out of a small farm; discoveries have been made by men how to uncover the secret profits who are revolutionizing crop and that lie hidden there; in short, how restock results. to make your farming more scientific, more profitable, more pleasurivestock results.

claiming soils formerly thought able.
hopeless; are securing startling butter fat production; are forcing hogs

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